

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1978 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 95-454 effective 90 days after Oct. 13, 1978, see section 907 of Pub. L. 95-454, set out as a note under section 1101 of this title.

**§ 3304a. Competitive service; career appointment after 3 years' temporary service**

(a) An individual serving in a position in the competitive service under an indefinite appointment or a temporary appointment pending establishment of a register (other than an individual serving under an overseas limited appointment, or in a position classified above GS-15 pursuant to section 5108) acquires competitive status and is entitled to have his appointment converted to a career appointment, without condition, when—

(1) he completes, without break in service of more than 30 days, a total of at least 3 years of service in such a position;

(2) he passes a suitable noncompetitive examination;

(3) the appointing authority (A) recommends to the Office of Personnel Management that the appointment of the individual be converted to a career appointment and (B) certifies to the Office that the work performance of the individual for the past 12 months has been satisfactory; and

(4) he meets Office qualification requirements for the position and is otherwise eligible for career appointment.

(b) The employing agency shall terminate the appointment of an individual serving in a position in the competitive service under an indefinite or temporary appointment described in subsection (a) of this section, not later than 90 days after he has completed the 3-year period referred to in subsection (a)(1) of this section, if, prior to the close of such 90-day period, such individual has not met the requirements and conditions of subparagraphs (2) to (4), inclusive, of subsection (a) of this section.

(c) In computing years of service under subsection (a)(1) of this section for an individual who leaves a position in the competitive service to enter the armed forces and is reemployed in such a position within 120 days after separation under honorable conditions, the period from the date he leaves his position to the date he is reemployed is included.

(d) The Office of Personnel Management may prescribe regulations necessary for the administration of this section.

(Added Pub. L. 90-105, §1(a), Oct. 11, 1967, 81 Stat. 273; amended Pub. L. 91-375, §6(c)(6), Aug. 12, 1970, 84 Stat. 776; Pub. L. 95-454, title IX, §906(a)(2), (3), Oct. 13, 1978, 92 Stat. 1224; Pub. L. 101-509, title V, §529 [title I, §101(b)(9)(B)], Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1427, 1441.)

## AMENDMENTS

1990—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 101-509, which directed the substitution of “in a position classified above GS-15 pursuant to section 5108)” for “in GS-16, 17, or 18)”, was executed by making the substitution for “in GS-16, GS-17, or GS-18)”, as the probable intent of Congress.

1978—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 95-454, §906(a)(2), (3), substituted “Office of Personnel Management” and “Office” for “Civil Service Commission” and “Commission”, respectively, wherever appearing.

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 95-454, §906(a)(2), substituted “Office of Personnel Management” for “Civil Service Commission”.

1970—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 91-375 struck out “, in the postal field service,” after “limited appointment” in introductory parenthetical text.

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1990 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 101-509 effective on such date as the President shall determine, but not earlier than 90 days, and not later than 180 days, after Nov. 5, 1990, see section 529 [title III, §305] of Pub. L. 101-509, set out as a note under section 5301 of this title.

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1978 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 95-454 effective 90 days after Oct. 13, 1978, see section 907 of Pub. L. 95-454, set out as a note under section 1101 of this title.

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1970 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 91-375 effective within 1 year after Aug. 12, 1970, on date established therefor by Board of Governors of United States Postal Service and published by it in Federal Register, see section 15(a) of Pub. L. 91-375, set out as an Effective Date note preceding section 101 of Title 39, Postal Service.

## EFFECTIVE DATE

Section 4 of Pub. L. 90-105 provided that:

“(a) This section and section 3 of this Act [amending provisions set out as a note under section 3101 of this title] shall become effective on the date of enactment of this Act [Oct. 11, 1967].

“(b) Subject to subsection (c) of this section, the first section and section 2 of this Act [enacting this section and section 3303 of former Title 39, The Postal Service] shall become effective on the one hundred and twentieth day following the date of enactment of this Act [Oct. 11, 1967].

“(c) For the purpose of the application of section 3304a(b) of title 5, United States Code, as enacted by this Act, in the case of an individual who, prior to the effective date prescribed by subsection (b) of this section, shall have completed the 3-year period referred to in such section 3304a(b), such individual shall be deemed to have completed such 3-year period on such effective date.”

**§ 3305. Competitive service; examinations; when held**

(a) The Office of Personnel Management shall hold examinations for the competitive service at least twice a year in each State and territory or possession of the United States where there are individuals to be examined.

(b) The Office shall hold an examination for a position to which an appointment has been made within the preceding 3 years, on the application of an individual who qualifies as a preference eligible under section 2108(3)(C)–(G) of this title. The examination shall be held during the quarter following the application.

(Pub. L. 89-554, Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 418; Pub. L. 90-83, §1(8), Sept. 11, 1967, 81 Stat. 197; Pub. L. 96-54, §2(a)(14), (15), Aug. 14, 1979, 93 Stat. 382.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES  
1966 ACT

Derivation	U.S. Code	Revised Statutes and Statutes at Large
(a) .....	5 U.S.C. 635 (last 24 words of 6th sentence).	Jan. 16, 1883, ch. 27, §3 (last 24 words of 6th sentence), 22 Stat. 404.

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES—CONTINUED  
1966 ACT

<i>Derivation</i>	<i>U.S. Code</i>	<i>Revised Statutes and Statutes at Large</i>
(b) .....	5 U.S.C. 859.	June 27, 1944, ch. 287, § 10, 58 Stat. 390. Jan. 19, 1948, ch. 1, § 3, 62 Stat. 3. Dec. 27, 1950, ch. 1151, § 2(b), 64 Stat. 1117.

Standard changes are made to conform with the definitions applicable and the style of this title as outlined in the preface to the report.

1967 ACT

This section amends various sections [§§ 3305, 3309, 3318] of title 5, United States Code, to reflect the redesignation of paragraphs (3)(B) through (F) of section 2108 of title 5 as paragraphs (3)(C) through (G) by section 1(6) of this bill.

AMENDMENTS

1979—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 96-54, § 2(a)(14), substituted “Office of Personnel Management” for “Civil Service Commission”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 96-54, § 2(a)(15), substituted “Office” for “Commission”.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1979 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 96-54 effective July 12, 1979, see section 2(b) of Pub. L. 96-54, set out as a note under section 305 of this title.

**[§ 3306. Repealed. Pub. L. 95-228, § 1, Feb. 10, 1978, 92 Stat. 25]**

Section, Pub. L. 89-554, Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 419, related to apportionment of appointments in the departmental service in the District of Columbia among the States, territories, etc.

**§ 3307. Competitive service; maximum-age entrance requirements; exceptions**

(a) Except as provided in subsections (b), (c), (d), (e), and (f) of this section appropriated funds may not be used to pay an employee who establishes a maximum-age requirement for entrance into the competitive service.

(b) The Secretary may, with the concurrence of such agent as the President may designate, determine and fix the maximum limit of age within which an original appointment to a position as an air traffic controller may be made.

(c) The Secretary of the Interior may determine and fix the minimum and maximum limits of age within which original appointments to the United States Park Police may be made.

(d) The head of any agency may determine and fix the minimum and maximum limits of age within which an original appointment may be made to a position as a law enforcement officer or firefighter, as defined by section 8331(20) and (21), respectively, of this title.

(e) The head of an agency may determine and fix the maximum age limit for an original appointment to a position as a firefighter or law enforcement officer, as defined by section 8401(14) or (17), respectively, of this title.

(f) The Secretary of Energy may determine and fix the maximum age limit for an original appointment to a position as a nuclear materials courier, as defined by section 8331(27) or 8401(33).

(g) The Secretary of Homeland Security may determine and fix the maximum age limit for an original appointment to a position as a customs and border protection officer, as defined by section 8401(36).

(Pub. L. 89-554, Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 419; Pub. L. 92-297, § 2(a), May 16, 1972, 86 Stat. 141; Pub. L. 93-350, § 1, July 12, 1974, 88 Stat. 355; Pub. L. 96-347, § 1(b), Sept. 12, 1980, 94 Stat. 1150; Pub. L. 100-238, title I, § 103(a)(1), Jan. 8, 1988, 101 Stat. 1744; Pub. L. 105-261, div. C, title XXXI, § 3154(a), Oct. 17, 1998, 112 Stat. 2254; Pub. L. 110-161, div. E, title V, § 535(c), Dec. 26, 2007, 121 Stat. 2076.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Derivation</i>	<i>U.S. Code</i>	<i>Revised Statutes and Statutes at Large</i>
.....	5 U.S.C. 638b (less proviso).	June 27, 1956, ch. 452, § 302 (less proviso), 70 Stat. 355.

The prohibition is restated in positive form. The word “officers” is omitted as included in “employees” in view of the definition of “employee” in section 2105.

Standard changes are made to conform with the definitions applicable and the style of this title as outlined in the preface to the report.

REFERENCES IN TEXT

For definition of Secretary, referred to in subsec. (b), see section 2109 of this title.

AMENDMENTS

2007—Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 110-161 added subsec. (g).

1998—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 105-261, § 3154(a)(1), substituted “(d), (e), and (f)” for “and (d)”.

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 105-261, § 3154(a)(2), added subsec. (f).

1988—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 100-238, § 103(a)(1)(A), substituted “may” for “may, with the concurrence of such agent as the President may designate.”

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 100-238, § 103(a)(1)(B), added subsec. (e).

1980—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 96-347 substituted “Secretary” for “Secretary of Transportation”.

1974—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 93-350, § 1(1), inserted reference to subsec. (d).

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 93-350, § 1(2), added subsec. (d).

1972—Pub. L. 92-297 designated existing provisions as subsec. (a) and added subsections (b) and (c).

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2007 AMENDMENT; TRANSITION  
RULES

Pub. L. 110-161, div. E, title V, § 535(e), Dec. 26, 2007, 121 Stat. 2077, provided that:

“(1) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section [amending this section and sections 8331, 8334 to 8336, 8401, 8412, 8415, 8422, 8423, and 8425 of this title] shall become effective on the later of June 30, 2008, or the first day of the first pay period beginning at least 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 26, 2007].

“(2) TRANSITION RULES.—

“(A) NONAPPLICABILITY OF MANDATORY SEPARATION PROVISIONS TO CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS.—The amendments made by subsections (a)(3) and (b)(6) [amending sections 8335 and 8425 of this title], respectively, shall not apply to an individual first appointed as a customs and border protection officer before the effective date under paragraph (1).

“(B) TREATMENT OF PRIOR CBPO SERVICE.—

“(i) GENERAL RULE.—Except as provided in clause (ii), nothing in this section [amending this section and sections 8331, 8334 to 8336, 8401, 8412, 8415, 8422, 8423, and 8425 of this title and enacting provisions set out as a note under this section] or any amendment made by this section shall be considered to